

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
FLORENCE DIVISION

Rasheed Theodore Louallen,

PETITIONER

v.

United States of America,

RESPONDENT

Crim. No. 4:11-cr-00078-TLW-2

C/A No. 4:16-cv-02627-TLW

Order

This matter comes before the Court for consideration of the motion filed by Petitioner Rasheed Theodore Louallen entitled “Petitioner’s Pro-Se Motion to Mend Under 15(c) Pursuant to Beckles and Johnson.” Because this filing challenges his underlying sentence, the Court construes it as a petition for relief pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255. For the reasons stated below, the Court dismisses the petition.

I. Factual and Procedural History

Petitioner pled guilty to a charge of Possession With Intent to Distribute and Distribution of 280 Grams or More of Cocaine Base. On September 20, 2011, the Court sentenced him as a career offender to 168 months incarceration.¹ He did not file a direct appeal.

On December 12, 2011, he filed a § 2255 petition, asserting that one of his prior drug offenses was improperly classified as a career offender predicate. ECF No. 505. After briefing, the Court granted the Government’s motion for summary judgment and dismissed the petition.

¹ His career offender predicate convictions were for Sale of Cocaine and PWID Marijuana, 2nd. PSR ¶¶ 48–49.

ECF No. 606. He did not file a direct appeal.

Petitioner filed the instant § 2255 petition on July 18, 2016,² in which he challenges his designation as a career offender. ECF No. 861. He has not received permission from the Fourth Circuit under 28 U.S.C. § 2244 to file this successive petition.

II. Discussion

The Court does not have jurisdiction to consider Petitioner's petition. He has filed a previous § 2255 petition and has not obtained permission from the Fourth Circuit to file a second or successive petition. A second or successive petition must be certified as provided in § 2244 by a panel of the appropriate court of appeals to contain:

- (1) newly discovered evidence that, if proven and viewed in light of the evidence as a whole, would be sufficient to establish by clear and convincing evidence that no reasonable factfinder would have found the movant guilty of the offense; or
- (2) a new rule of constitutional law, made retroactive to cases on collateral review by the Supreme Court, that was previously unavailable.

28 U.S.C. § 2255(h).

Because Petitioner has filed a previous § 2255 petition, the present petition is second or successive. He has not received an order from the Fourth Circuit authorizing a second or successive petition. Consequently, the Court is without jurisdiction to consider it. *See In re Vial*, 115 F.3d 1192, 1194 (4th Cir. 1997) (noting that the petitioner must seek permission from the circuit court to file a second or successive petition under § 2255); *Burgess v. Warden*, No. 2:11-1621-CMC, 2011 WL 4345430, at *2 (D.S.C. Sept. 15, 2011) (“As Petitioner is no doubt well aware, prior to filing a second or successive motion under § 2255, he must obtain certification

² Filing date under *Houston v. Lack*, 487 U.S. 266 (1988).

by a panel of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals allowing him to file a second or successive motion. As provided in 28 U.S.C. § 2244, ‘[b]efore a second or successive application permitted by this section is filed in the district court, the applicant shall move in the appropriate court of appeals for an order authorizing the district court to consider the application.’ 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(3)(A). This he has not done.”).

III. Conclusion

For these reasons, Petitioner’s petition for relief pursuant to § 2255, ECF No. 861, is **DENIED**. This action is hereby **DISMISSED**.

The Court has reviewed this petition in accordance with Rule 11 of the Rules Governing Section 2255 Proceedings. In order for the Court to issue a certificate of appealability, Rule 11 requires that Petitioner satisfy the requirements of 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2), which in turn requires that he “has made a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.” The Court concludes that he has not made such a showing, and it is therefore not appropriate to issue a certificate of appealability as to the issues raised in this petition. Petitioner is advised that he may seek a certificate from the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals under Rule 22 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/ Terry L. Wooten
Terry L. Wooten
Chief United States District Judge

July 27, 2016
Columbia, South Carolina